AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing an aesthetically pleasing transition between two or more menu bars comprising the steps of:

determining to change from a first menu bar currently displayed;

updating a computer display to display a second menu bar in place of the first menu bar; and

rendering animation graphics to animate the transition between the first and second menu bars such that the differences between the first menu bar and the second menu bar are apparent.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

detecting a triggering event;

wherein the step of determining is performed in response to the detected triggering event.

3. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein the triggering event comprises a user-initiated event.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the triggering event comprises a mouse click event.

5. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the triggering event performs the step of changing which application is currently active in the computer operating system.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of changing comprises opening an application.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5, wherein the step of changing comprises quitting an application.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the second menu corresponds to an application that becomes current by active in the step of changing.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the animation graphics comprise rotation animation graphics.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the animation graphics comprise scrolling animation graphics.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the animation graphics comprise three-dimensional animation graphics.

12. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the three-dimensional animation graphics comprises animation graphics utilizing gray scales.

13. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the three-dimensional animation graphics utilize gray scales to achieve a virtual lighting effect.

14. (Currently Amended) A system for providing an aesthetically pleasing transition between two or more menu bars in a computer graphical user interface, comprising:

means for determining to change from a first menu bar currently displayed;

means for updating a computer display to display a second menu bar in place of the first menu bar; and

means for rendering animation graphics to animate the transition between menu bars such that the differences between the first menu bar and the second menu bar are apparent.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, further comprising:

means for detecting a triggering event.

16. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the means for detecting a triggering event is configured to detect one of:

a user-initiated event, a system-initiated event, or a mouse click event.

17. (Original) The system of claim 15, wherein the means for detecting a triggering event is configured to detect one of opening an application, quitting an application, or making an application active.

18. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the means for rendering is configured to render rotation animation graphics.

19. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the means for rendering is configured to render scrolling animation graphics.

20. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the means for rendering is configured to render three-dimensional animation graphics.

21. (Original) The system of claim 20, wherein the means for rendering is configured to render the three-dimensional graphics by utilizing gray scales.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21, wherein the means for rendering is configured to render the three dimensional animation graphics utilizing gray scales to achieve a virtual lighting effect.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium containing a program that executes the following steps:

determining to change from a first menu bar currently displayed;

updating a computer display to display a second menu bar in place of the first menu bar; and

rendering animation graphics to animate the transition between the first and second menu bars such that the differences between the first menu bar and the second menu bar are apparent.